PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 99 412/Wi*	FOR FURTHER A	CTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416					
International application No.	International filing dat	e (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)					
PCT/EP2004/010775	24.09.200	4	25.09.2003					
International Patent Classification (IPC)	or national classification and I	PC						
A61F13/62								
Applicant NORDENIA DEUTSCHLAND GRONAU GMBH								
_	ed to the applicant according to	•	International Preliminary Examining Authority					
2. This REPORT consists of a to	tal of	sheets, including	g this cover sheet.					
This report is also accompanie	d by ANNEXES, comprising:							
a. (sent to the applica	ant and to the International Bu	reau) a total of 6	sheets, as follows:					
sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).								
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental							
	dia at Daniera ataba sa tabu							
b (sent to the Interno	ntional Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and numbe	r of electronic carrier(s))					
			, containing a sequence listing and/or tables					
related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).								
4. This report contains indication	s relating to the following item	ıs:						
Box No. I Basi	s of the report							
Box No. II Prior	rity							
Box No. III Non-	establishment of opinion with	regard to novelty, invent	ive step and industrial applicability					
Box No. IV Lack	of unity of invention							
BON IVO. V								
Box No. VI Cert:	ain documents cited							
Box No. VII Certs	ain defects in the international	application						
Box No. VIII Certs	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application							
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of th	is report					
		F	•					
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP		Authorized officer						
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.						

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/010775

Box	No. I	. I Basis of the report					
1.		ith regard to the language, this report is based on the international apdicated under this item.	plication in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise				
	This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of: international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)) publication of the international application (Rule 12.4) international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)						
2.	rece	ith regard to the elements of the international application, this report ceiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are refeis report): the international application as originally filed/furnished the description:					
			as originally filed/furnished				
			ived by this Authority onived by this Authority on				
	\bowtie	the claims:					
		nos.	as originally filed/furnished				
		nos.*	as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19				
		nos.* 1-4 rece	ived by this Authority on /filed with the demand				
		nos.* rece	ived by this Authority on				
	\bowtie	the drawings:					
		sheets 1/2-2/2	as originally filed/furnished				
			ived by this Authority on				
		7	ived by this Authority on				
	\vdash	a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental:	Box Relating to Sequence Listing.				
3.	ш	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:					
		the description, pages					
		the drawings, sheets/figs	the claims, nos.				
4.			annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since				
		the description, pages					
		the claims, nos.					
		the drawings, sheets/figs					
		the sequence listing (specify):					
al-	701	any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):					
*	If ite	item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "supersede	a. ··				

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/010775

				PCT/EP2004/010/	/5
Box No. V Reasoned statement under Ar citations and explanations sup		ticle 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive soporting such statement	tep or industrial applicability;		
1.	Statement				
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-4		YES
		Claims			NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-4		YES
		Claims			NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-4		YES
		Claims			NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)					
1. Prior art					

- This report makes reference to the following documents:
 - D1: US-B1-6 471 804 (AABERG THOMAS ET AL) 29
 - October 2002 (2002-10-29)
 - D2: EP-A-0 818 188 (UNI CHARM CORP) 14

January 1998 (1998-01-14)

D3: EP-A-0 793 953 (HARTMANN PAUL AG) 10

September 1997 (1997-09-10)

2. Novelty

D1 is regarded as the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. It dislcoses (cf. D1, column 1, lines 7-17, column 2, lines 20-31, claim 1, figure 2):

a method wherein at a first station, a piece of material is joined to a layer of material by means of ultrasonic sealing and then, at a second station, the entire contact surface is joined by means of

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

ultrasonic sealing. The laminate formed in such a manner can be used in absorbent products in particular.

The subject matter of the amended claim 1 therefore differs from the known method in that the closing strip (or the piece of material) are fixedly joined to the opposing surface by means of cold pressing.

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can therefore be regarded as that of providing an alternative to ultrasonic sealing.

The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

Other methods requiring greater outlay are disclosed in the prior art (cf. D2, column 4, lines 6-51, D3, column 5, lines 12-29), and therefore it would not be obvious for a person skilled in the art to select this method step. Furthermore, the literature contains nothing that suggests selecting this method in particular.

Claims 2-4 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.